

REMARKS

Review and reconsideration of the Office Action dated October 29, 2004, is respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

The Examiner objects to the Abstract and rejects the claims for lack of clarity.

In response, Applicants have amended the Abstract and carefully reviewed and revised the claims (which were not well translated from the original German) for accuracy and clarity, taking care not to introduce new matter (the original German text having been filed together with the translation when filing the US application). Support for the claim amendments can further be found in the figures and associated text.

The main idea of the present invention is to simplify the process of assembly of variable geometry turbochargers. This is done in accordance with the present invention by designing the guiding vanes (7), nozzle ring (6), unison ring (5) and disk (29) so that they can be pre-assembled into a cassette or module. This module can then simply be slid into the turbine housing and fixed using a sleeve.

Further, Applicant has amended the specification to address translation problems and formalities.

Applicant has reviewed the reference cited by the Examiner - US Patent 4,657,476 - and note that there is no suggestion for a major feature of the present invention - use of a sleeve (45) to attach the disk (29) to the turbine housing (2). Accordingly, Applicant maintains that the present invention is patentable over the cited reference.

U.S. PATENT APPLICATION No. 10/659,786
AMENDMENT A

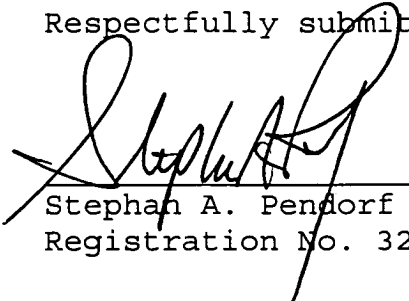
Attorney Docket: DKT02118

Claim 21 has been canceled. Applicant believes that the Claims 11-20 are now in conditions for allowance.

Favorable consideration and early indication of allowability is respectfully requested. Should further issues remain prior to allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the indicated telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

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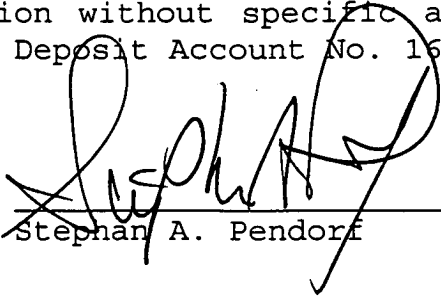

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Date: January 27, 2005

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING AND AUTHORIZATION TO CHARGE

I hereby certify that the foregoing STATUS CHANGE for U.S. Application No. 10/659,786 filed September 10, 2003, were deposited in first class U.S. mail, postage prepaid, Mail Stop Issue Fee Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on January 27, 2005.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required at any time during the prosecution of this application without specific authorization, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 16-0877.


Stephan A. Pendorf